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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/550,185	11/14/2005	Tatsuo Shimizu	Q89598	5280
23373 7590 08/29/2008 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			EXAMINER WHITE, EVERETT NMN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1623	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/29/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/550,185

**Applicant(s)**

SHIMIZU ET AL.

**Examiner**

EVERETT WHITE

**Art Unit**

1623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/DE)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/06/2005 & 9/22/2005
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gallina (US Patent No. 5,583,120).

Applicants claim an antipruritic composition for external use on skin, which contains a mucopolysaccharide or a derivative thereof in an amount of 0.5 to 20 weight %.

The Gallina patent discloses hyaluronic acid-urea pharmaceutical compositions that may be applied topically to the skin to treat diseases, including diseases wherein itching and other discomforts are successfully treated (see abstract and the 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph of column 2). The pharmaceutical composition comprises hyaluronic acid or pharmaceutical acceptable salts thereof in an amount of 0.05 to 25% by weight (see the 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph of column 2). The hyaluronic acid is a naturally occurring mucopolysaccharide with a molecular weight generally ranging between about 50,000 and 8,000,000, which covers part of the average polymerization degree of at least 5 and less than 1200 recited in the instant claims. See the list of components in the lotion base water-in-oil emulsion in Example A of the Gallina patent wherein coconut oil is listed as one of the components (see column 8, line 39) with the 1.10% sodium hyaluronate and 2.5% urea lotion, which anticipate the instantly claimed antipruritic composition which further contains a liquid oil. This description of the hyaluronic acid-urea pharmaceutical composition of the Gallina patent anticipates the antipruritic composition of the instant claims.

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Sato Toshio et al (JP20023338476).

Applicants claim an antipruritic composition for external use on skin, which contains a mucopolysaccharide or a derivative thereof in an amount of 0.5 to 20 weight %.

The Sato Toshio et al JP patent discloses an external preparation for prophylaxis and treatment of itching which comprises chitosan as the active ingredient (see abstract), in an amount of 0.01 to 5% by weight of the preparation (see Paragraph No. [0010] of the Sato Toshio et al patent). Paragraph No. [0011] further discloses oils such as paraffin, vegetable oil, and animal oil, as components of the preparation. Also see paragraph No. [0012] which discloses other agents that include urea that may be blended with the external preparations in addition to chitosan. This description of the Sato Toshio et al patent anticipates the instantly claimed antipruritic composition of the instant claims.

#### ***Summary***

4. All the pending claims are rejected.

#### ***Examiner's Telephone Number, Fax Number, and Other Information***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Everett White whose telephone number is 571-272-0660. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shaojia A. Jiang can be reached on 571-272-0627. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Everett White/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1623

/Shaojia Anna Jiang, Ph.D./  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1623